PROJECT PRIDE

TAKING CARE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA'S PAST FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.

Discussion Paper

Tourism
Recreation and Culture
HON. BILL REID, MINISTER

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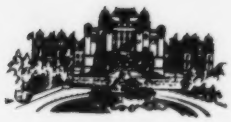


TO: THE PEOPLE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

I am pleased to provide this discussion paper on PROJECT PRIDE, a review of heritage policy and programs currently underway in British Columbia.

This spring, a Project Pride Task Force will tour the Province holding public meetings in various communities to accept submissions regarding heritage issues. In the autumn, the Task Force will submit a formal report to me providing recommendations for future legislation, policies and programs. I intend to introduce new heritage legislation in the spring 1988 session of the Legislature.

This discussion paper is designed to identify some of the key heritage issues facing our Province and to assist you in considering these issues and presenting your views. It is by no means comprehensive, and I encourage your input not only on these issues but on others which are of concern to you.

Please read this document, consider the opportunities offered by our rich legacy of heritage resources and make your views known to the Task Force, either by attending meetings in your area or by forwarding your comments to the PROJECT PRIDE Task Force, c/o Heritage Conservation Branch, Ministry of Tourism, Recreation and Culture, 333 Quebec Street, Victoria, B.C., V8V 1X4.

With your help, British Columbia will continue to take care of its past for future generations to enjoy.

Best regards,

Bill Reid
Minister of Tourism,
Recreation and Culture

CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES

Cultural heritage resources are the physical products of the Province's human history that are of scientific, aesthetic, cultural, educational, economic or recreational value.

The following list identifies some of the heritage resources whose conservation will be the subject of Project Pride's investigations:

- Archaeological artifacts
- Building ruins
- Buildings of architectural merit
- Commemorative monuments
- Fortifications
- Ghost towns
- Heritage boats
- Heritage churches
- Heritage trails and corridors
- Heritage trees
- Native Indian village sites
- Native Indian burial places
- Native Indian middens
- Old bridges and tunnels
- Old cemeteries
- Old industrial buildings
- Old orchards and farms
- Old walls, gates and fences
- Other archaeological sites
- Petroglyphs and pictographs
- Rural and urban landscapes
- Shipwrecks
- Statues, murals and immovable art
- Totem poles

Project Pride is primarily concerned with the Province's immovable cultural heritage. This focus reflects the aspects of heritage conservation covered by the provisions of the current *Heritage Conservation Act*. The review will focus less on the conservation of movable heritage resources found in museums and archives.

Project Pride will primarily address heritage resources that are managed *in situ*. These places and things form part of our environment as well as part of our cultural heritage. They pose different conservation problems than are experienced in museum and archives management and present different opportunities. Some of these sites and objects are owned and managed by heritage agencies as historic attractions. Many others are in everyday use, and in private ownership.

HERITAGE CONSERVATION IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

British Columbia's heritage resources exist for the people of the Province and for our children. It is not possible to save all of these valuable resources; we must therefore determine which products of our past should be passed on to our descendants. To make this determination, the resources with the greatest heritage merit and public value must be identified, and important decisions must be made.

Many of our most appreciated heritage resources are privately owned buildings. We see their individuality, craftsmanship, quality of design and construction and recognize them as community landmarks. Unfortunately, such buildings are often threatened by rising maintenance and operating costs, structural deterioration, obsolescence, and redevelopment pressures. Similar challenges exist in protecting archaeological sites, maritime heritage and other areas of heritage conservation.

How can provincial and municipal governments, heritage organizations, the private sector and individuals respond to these problems? How can heritage conservation objectives be met while protecting the rights of individual property owners? And how can this be done at a reasonable cost?

The Ministry of Tourism, Recreation and Culture is committed to ensuring that British Columbia's heritage resources are effectively managed for the benefit of all citizens. The Ministry acts as an OWNER and PROTECTOR of selected heritage resources and as a LEADER, ENABLER, SUPPORTER and PROMOTER of heritage conservation in British Columbia.

In the ten years since the *Heritage Conservation Act* was passed, the heritage conservation movement has matured and heritage objectives have changed. The enthusiasm, commitment and dedication of many British Columbians have provided governments, Indian Bands, heritage organizations and individuals with greater experience, knowledge and understanding. All of us now have a better idea of what needs to be done, and we have ideas as to how it may be accomplished.

New and progressive approaches have emerged and new insights into the role of heritage in tourism and economic development have created a new environment.

The Government of British Columbia therefore requests your views on these and other questions. We want to deliver, and help you to deliver, the best possible programs and policies for protecting and presenting our valuable past and ensuring its vibrant future.

PROJECT PRIDE TASK FORCE

The members of the Project Pride Task Force represent various sectors and interests in the Province. They have been appointed for their ability and commitment to the development of heritage conservation policy and programs in British Columbia.

The Task Force will receive and review all your written or verbal submissions. They will then present recommendations to the Minister of Tourism, Recreation and Culture regarding heritage conservation in British Columbia.

THE PROJECT PRIDE TASK FORCE NEEDS YOUR VIEWS!

PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Task Force will hold hearings throughout British Columbia during the months of May and June, 1987 in:

Vancouver	May 12–14	Prince George	June 2 & 3
Chilliwack	May 19 & 20	Terrace	June 4 & 5
Sandspit	May 21 & 22	Cranbrook	June 8 & 9
Kelowna	May 25 & 26	Nelson	June 10 & 11
Kamloops	May 27 & 28	Victoria	June 14 & 16
Fort St. John	May 31 & June 1		

Municipalities or community organizations in locations other than those listed are being encouraged to hold their own community meetings and to forward input received to the Task Force on behalf of their community. Watch your newspaper and look for posters announcing a community meeting in your area or contact your local heritage society.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

OPTION 1

Write your ideas on the issues presented in this booklet in the spaces provided. Add as many additional pages as you require or discuss other issues you think are important.

OPTION 2

Write a letter or prepare a brief in your own format.

OPTION 3

Make a presentation at one of the Task Force Hearings. To arrange a time, please contact the Project Pride Office at the address or telephone number below.

Submit your views to the Task Force by:

a. mailing this booklet, a letter or your own brief to the address below; or
b. presenting them in person at one of the Task Force Hearings or at the community meeting (in an area where the Task Force is unable to visit).

CHAIRPERSON
PROJECT PRIDE TASK FORCE
333 QUEBEC STREET
VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA
V8V 1X4

Tel: (604) 356-1195

THE PROVINCE IS A LEADER IN DEFINING HERITAGE OBJECTIVES

If heritage conservation is to be undertaken, one of the best means to ensure the protection of our heritage resources is public education.

1. What should be the extent of the government's role in preserving places with heritage character?
2. Should the Province undertake promotional activities to raise public awareness, understanding, and appreciation of British Columbia's heritage?

The make-up of British Columbia's cultural heritage is varied and reflects different experiences and cultures. There are, consequently, many views as to what should be conserved for our future generations.

3. What kinds of places and things from the past should the Province seek to conserve and assist others to conserve?

It is not possible to save all of the cultural resources that exist today. Choices must be made as to which resources will remain. These choices will depend on the heritage value of the resources.

4. How can the heritage value of places or things from the past be assessed?

At present there are numerous people, organizations and levels of government involved in heritage conservation.

5. Who should have the main responsibility for ensuring the conservation of heritage places, heritage objects and other types of cultural heritage resources?

THE PROVINCE IS AN OWNER OF HERITAGE SITES AND OBJECTS

Many heritage buildings and sites are owned and managed by the Province for heritage and non-heritage purposes. Sometimes, meeting a high standard of heritage conservation makes good economic sense for a property owner. Other times, conservation requires extra effort or cost.

6. Should property managers of Crown-owned heritage sites be expected to be more conscientious about heritage concerns than would be expected from private-sector owners?
7. Who should pay any extra costs: the land or building users, the Crown agencies or both?

Some provincially-owned buildings and sites are suitable for management as tourist attractions. Some of these are now operated as historic sites; others are being held for possible future development. Historic sites and museums can be operated by the Province, municipalities, non-profit societies or by the private sector.

8. Who should have primary responsibility for the development and operation of museums and historic sites in B.C.?
9. Which heritage attractions that you know of should be managed by the Provincial Government?
10. Which attractions should not be managed by the Province?

The Province, in its conservation programs has acquired a number of heritage sites.

11. Are there any other heritage buildings, sites or objects which the Province should acquire?
12. How should they be used?

Over time, numerous non-profit organizations, communities and the private sector have gained in heritage conservation experience.

13. Should any heritage buildings, sites or objects now owned by the Province be transferred or sold to municipalities, non-profit societies or the private sector?

The Province Is A Protector Of Heritage Resources

Present legislation gives automatic legal protection to certain kinds of archaeological sites. A Permit from the Province is required to alter these sites. This applies on both public and privately owned land.

14. Are there any kinds of heritage resources which should have automatic protection under heritage legislation?
15. If so, what prohibitions and requirements should apply?

Since 1925, the Province has designated 58 heritage sites and objects. Most are Crown-owned. Protection of privately-owned heritage sites is considered to be primarily a responsibility of municipalities.

16. Should the Province protect heritage resources by using heritage designation?
17. If so, should heritage designations be registered on land titles?
18. Should the Province have other authority to protect heritage sites? Specify.

Having legislation to protect heritage conservation means that its provisions must be upheld.

19. How can the Province and municipalities effectively monitor violations of conservation legislation?
20. How can they enforce legal protection of heritage resources?
21. What kinds of penalties should apply to violations of provincial and municipal heritage legislation?

Most heritage resources are owned by individuals. Heritage conservation for the public good could, therefore, infringe on the rights of land owners.

22. What provisions are needed to ensure that individual property and civil rights are respected?
23. How can individual rights be balanced with the achievement of provincial and community heritage conservation objectives?

The Province Is An Enabler Of Community Heritage Programs

Municipalities in B.C. have been able to designate heritage sites since 1973. This means that owners must get council approval before they may demolish or alter the exterior of designated heritage buildings.

24. Should municipalities continue to have these powers?
25. Should regional districts also have this authority?
26. What types of privately-owned heritage property should local government be able to protect?

Because heritage conservation is beneficial to the community, some municipalities offer financial assistance as an incentive to conserve heritage resources.

27. Should municipalities offer financial assistance or incentives to promote heritage conservation?
28. If so, what form might this take?
29. Should municipalities be able to relax or adjust fire, building code, zoning and planning regulations for heritage buildings or areas?

Over the years the Province has developed programs to assist municipalities both financially and with technical advice.

30. Should the Province continue to assist municipalities in this manner?
31. If so what types of programs should be offered?

THE PROVINCE IS A SUPPORTER OF HERITAGE PROGRAMS

Over the years, the Province has provided financial assistance to support heritage conservation.

32. Should the Province financially assist community-based conservation programs, provincial heritage organizations or owners of heritage resources?
33. If so, what kinds of assistance should be available?

The Province has also provided professional advice and assistance on the technical aspects of heritage conservation.

34. Should the Province continue to offer professional, technical or other services to community-based heritage conservation programs, provincial heritage organizations or owners of heritage resources?
35. If so, what kinds of services should be provided?

Developments in the field of heritage conservation have resulted in new techniques and standards in protecting heritage resources.

36. Should the Province assist in the development of technical material or training programs for heritage professionals and volunteers?
37. If so, what skills need to be developed?

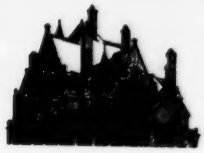
Over the years, heritage organizations have received technical and financial assistance from the Province.

38. Can heritage organizations receive Provincial assistance without becoming dependent upon it and without losing their independence as advocates of heritage conservation?
39. Are there ways in which this can be achieved?

THE PROVINCE IS A PROMOTER OF THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF HERITAGE CONSERVATION

Building renovation is the fastest-growing sector of the Province's construction industry. It is now estimated to be valued at $2 billion annually in British Columbia. Some of present renovation is insensitive to the heritage character of buildings.

40. Should this growing private-sector investment be channelled towards heritage-sensitive renovation? If so, how?
41. Should the Province encourage building renovation as a means of promoting job creation? If so, in what ways could this be done?



Heritage-sensitive renovation creates a demand for old-style windows and doors, mouldings and other millwork, as well as hardware, fixtures and other building components no longer in mass production.

42. Does the Province have a role to play in promoting local manufacturing of heritage restoration products?

Heritage sites are attractions for residents and visitors, and they represent a significant opportunity for economic development through tourism.

43. Should Provincial heritages sites be marketed as tourist attractions?
44. Should the Province assist other museum and historic site operators with marketing?
45. How should the Province promote heritage tourism in British Columbia?

Many heritage sites in British Columbia can be visited free of charge.

46. Should museum and historic sites be expected to generate revenue to offset operating costs?
47. Should admission fees be charged at Crown-owned heritage attractions?

OTHER ISSUES

The Province has been developing an inventory of archaeological sites for many years. It now contains 16,000 sites. Development of a comprehensive Provincial inventory of heritage buildings and historic sites would be a major and expensive undertaking.

48. Is a provincial inventory of heritage buildings and historic sites necessary?
49. Should it include both legally-protected and unprotected resources?

Archaeological artifacts are found on private and public land throughout British Columbia. Many of these artifacts have extremely high cultural value but are lost through hoarding, sale and transportation out of the Province and Canada.

50. Who should own the archaeological artifacts found in British Columbia?
51. How can they be protected?
52. What other issues should the Project Pride Task Force consider?